

Pride: It's Danger and Deliverance
Short Books With Powerful Messages
Obadiah

1. The Description of Pride, v.1-4

A. A Definition: Pride is a self-centered swagger with a hyper-desire for attention. The proud is focused on self: “look what I can do, look at who I am.” A proud person sees himself as self-important, and therefore is self-indulgent, and self-sufficient.

B. Two Words That Define this Sin: “Pride and Boasting”

- 1 Peter 5:5b: God resisteth the **proud**, and giveth grace to the humble. (*hyperēphanos*)
- 1 John 2:15; The **pride** of life... is of the world. (*alazoneia*)
- James 4:16: But now ye rejoice in your **boastings**: all such rejoicing is evil. (*alazoneia*)

(These words “pride” and “boasting” are the same Gr. word and have a root word (*ale*) that means WANDERER. A boaster is wandering and purposeless.)

C. Two Occasions These Words are Used: Romans 1:30, 2 Timothy 3:2.

D. Two Ultimate Illustrations of Pride:

- 1.) Lucifer, Isaiah 14:12-15
- 2.) Nebuchadnezzar, Daniel 4:30

2. The Destruction of Pride, v.5-9

Proverbs 18:12; Before destruction the heart of man is haughty, and before honor is humility.

Proverbs 11:2; When pride cometh, then cometh shame.

Proverbs 13:10: Only by pride cometh contention.

Proverbs 16:18: Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.

Proverbs 28:25: He that is of a proud heart stirreth up strife.

A. **WEALTH** will be Destroyed, v.5-6

B. **WISE men** will be Deceived, v.7,8

C. **WARRIORS** will be Dismayed, v.9. Strength will be overthrown.

3. The Downward Spiral of Pride, v.10-15

- Their pride led them to do what they should NOT have done although they thought they were in the absolute right. This phrase is repeated seven times: “thou shouldest not” have done that!

4. The Deliverance from Pride, v.17-21

- A. Look to Jesus
- B. Possess Your Possessions
- C. Labor for His Kingdom